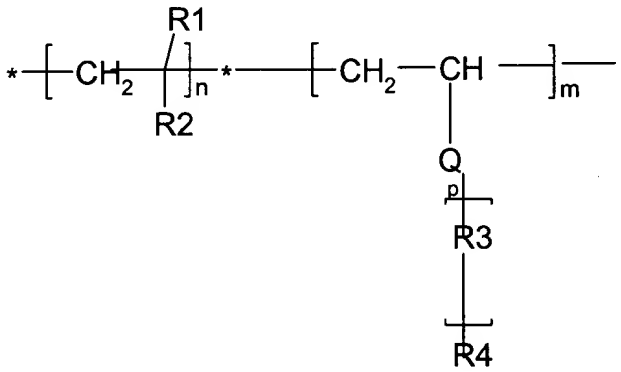
AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at page 4, line 6 through page 5, line 12 as follows:

In one embodiment, therefore, the current invention comprises a polymeric superplasticizer and an air-detraining effective amount of an air detraining agent. Preferably, the polymeric superplasticizer is a comb polymer comprised of polycarboxylic acid or partial esters to which are attached pendent groups consisting essentially of polyoxyalkylene groups. The term "polyoxyalkylene" refers to a mixture of polyoxyalkylene groups such as polyethylene oxide, polypropylene oxide and polybutylene oxide. The comb polymer employed as a polymeric superplasticizer in accordance with the current invention can be represented by the following general formula (I):



where R_1 = H or CH_3;

R_2 = COOM, OCH_3, SO_3M, O-CO-CH_3, CO-NH_2, preferably COOM, where M is a salt of Na, Ca, K, or Mg;

R_3 = is an alkylene oxide group selected from the group consisting of ethylene oxide, propylene oxide and/or butylene oxide, and wherein the alkylene oxide groups can be in either a block or random distribution;
R_4 = CH_3 or alkyl;
Q = C(O)O, C(O)NH, CH_2O, CH2N, O;
m and n are such that between 98% to 2 % of m units and between about 2% to about 98% of n units are present in the polymer; and
p is between 1 to 300. A particularly preferred polymeric superplasticizer is ~~SOKLAN® HP 80 commerically~~ SOKALAN® HP 80 commercially available from BASF Corporation.

Please amend the paragraph on page 14, lines 6-17 to read as follows:

The results of such tests appear in accompanying drawing FIGURE 1. As can be seen, the results show that both Additives A and B have the required stability in the polymeric superplasticizer of the invention and also are able to significantly reduce the excessive air entrained by the polymeric superplasticizer. The results also show that the reduction in the air-entrainment achieved by the stable, air-detraining additives of the invention allows the formulator to achieve very nearly the same air content as that attained with concrete slurries containing no superplasticizer (i.e., the "Control" in FIGURE 1) or with conventional superplasticizers that do not entrain excessive air (i.e., Degressal SD20, sodium napthalene formaldehyde condensates (NSFC) and Polymeric SP ~~(Sokalan HP80)~~ (SOKALAN® HP80) in FIGURE 1).